


## APPENDIX H LOCAL GREEN SPACES: EVIDENCE BASE

REF	DESCRIPTION / EVIDENCE	NPPF (2019) LOCAL GREEN SPACE CRITERIA							
		LOCAL BOUNDED, NOT EXTENSIVE YES/NO	SPECIAL TO COMMUNITY (Max 10)				LOCAL SIGNIFICANCE (Max 10)		TOTAL /25
			PROXIMITY 0 - 5	BEAUTY 0 - 3	TRANQUIL 0 - 2	REC. VALUE 0 - 5	HISTORY 0 - 5	WILDLIFE 0 - 5	
119	<p><b>Church of St Mary, Bitteswell, churchyard</b></p> <p>Area: 0.27 ha Churchyard on elevated site, stone retaining boundary walls. Main part of the setting of Grade II Listed Building. Informal open space with floral plantings, managed and rougher grass, traditional churchyard trees including lime, cedar and yew, other shrubs, etc. Headstones include good examples of 18<sup>th</sup> century Swithland Slate engraving/carving. Forms the centre of a tranquil and attractive corner of the village, with traffic-free lanes and cottages. Mature trees (as above) and the church building provide habitat for bats (breeding, roost and foraging; brown long-eared and pipistrelle sp.), two owl species, several UKBAP species birds including song thrush, spotted flycatcher. HDC OSSR site</p> 	Y	5	3	2	3	5	3	<b>21</b>
183	<p><b>Bitteswell village green</b></p> <p><b>Registered Village Green VG60</b> (Leics. CC)</p> <p>Area: 1.21 ha</p> <p>Open area in the centre of the village preserving the nucleated layout of the original early medieval settlement, in which house plots were arranged around the junction of the several tracks connecting Bitteswell with its open fields and neighbouring settlements. Origin probably 10<sup>th</sup> century, formalised 18<sup>th</sup> century at time of Parliamentary Enclosure (1787), and surviving with only minor encroachments since then.</p> <p><b>Area:</b> 1.1 ha including roads and paths</p> <p>A key feature of the Conservation Area: <i>The grouping of buildings around the green's edge is particularly attractive, especially fine being the 18th Century red brick farmhouses on the north extending to Newstead House on the Ashby Road and the row of varied simpler cottages in the east which lead to the church lychgate by a large specimen horse chestnut tree. The Church of St. Mary, its lychgate and the Horse Chestnut tree make a fine closure to the green in the east. The green has been encroached by the 3 pairs of 1847 almshouses in its northern section and a cottage in the east. These encroachments break up the central open space and provide small roads and corners in addition to those of the Nook and Manor Road. The houses between Manor Road and the Church are themselves an early encroachment.</i> (Bitteswell Conservation Area designation statement, 1972-2004)</p>	Y	5	3	1	4	3	3	<b>19</b>

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			PROXIMITY 0-5	BEAUTY 0-3	TRANQUIL 0-2	REC. VALUE 0-5	HISTORY 0-5		WILDLIFE 0-5
	<p>Comprises the following compartments (see appendix G), each with particular values and features contributing to the site's overall significance:</p> <p><b>G1:</b> green open space with established horse chestnut tree. Adjacent to main road. Registered village greens with associated bye laws. Grassed area containing wild flowers (violets, celandines, clover, speedwell, attracting insects and birds.</p> <p><b>G2/G3 (120):</b> adjacent to main road. Registered village greens with associated bye laws. Grassed green open space surrounding the alms houses with established two hornbeams. Weeping ash and elm planted for the queen's jubilee. Grassed area contains wild flowers (daisies, dandelions, violets) beech hedge surrounding the alms houses provide habitat for birds/ insects. Note: the historic Alms-houses are excluded from the Registered Green (Application and decision ref. CA(VG) 01/2016) but contribute to its historical significance.</p> <p><b>G4:</b> green open space with two established trees. Adjacent to main road. Registered village greens with associated bye laws. Grassed area contains wild flowers (dandelions, daisies, speedwell, celandines, clover) large horse chestnut under TPO, and Indian chestnut tree.</p> <p><b>G5:</b> green open space. Adjacent to main road. Registered village greens with associated bye laws.</p> <p><b>G6:</b> green open space with two established trees. Adjacent to main road. Registered village greens with associated bye laws. White cottage which was once the village post office.</p> <p><b>G7:</b> green open space. Adjacent to minor roads in front of the school. Registered village greens with associated bye laws adjacent to school and the village pinfold. This is now a seating area.</p> <p><b>G8 (111a):</b> green open space with established oak tree. Adjacent to main road. Registered village greens with associated bye laws. This green is associated with the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bitteswell Mop, when clubmen of the village marched in procession to the parish church each Whit Monday. They carried long poles bedecked with ribbons and coloured paper to attend divine service afterwards returning to the green to feast and dance.</li> <li>• At Whitsuntide, there would be dancing on the green from six to ten with a band playing country dance melodies.</li> <li>• Morris dancing.</li> <li>• Some Russians came once with a dancing bear and slept in a ditch with a hedge that bordered the green.</li> <li>• German bands came and played.</li> <li>• Annual bonfire was held in the middle of the green on the 5<sup>th</sup> of November.</li> <li>• In the 1950's, several old-time fairs were held on the greens.</li> <li>• Children for many generations have played football, cricket, rounders etc.</li> <li>• Children take part in country dancing takes place in may organised by the school.</li> <li>• Villagers have celebrated jubilees etc</li> </ul>								



